

# Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Attorney General's Office Offers Training for Volunteer Mediators**

(Phoenix, Ariz. – Nov. 14, 2005) The Arizona Attorney General's Office is offering a mediation training course in early December to people interested in learning to help resolve local court disputes.

The Attorney General's Civil Rights Division joins the Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Office and Maricopa County Superior Court to provide this free, 40-hour basic mediation class.

Mediation involves a neutral person trying to help disputing parties reach an agreement without going to court. This process is a valuable alternative to litigation, saving time, money and stress. Mediation also reduces the courts' heavy caseloads. The Attorney General's Office has been training mediators for the courts since 1984 and has its own volunteer mediation program for resolving civil rights cases.

The next training session will be held in Phoenix on Dec. 1, 2, 7, 8, and 9. The classes run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and include a working lunch. Participants must complete all five days to become eligible to mediate for the courts.

The mediation training program is open to the public. In return for the free training, those who successfully complete the course must agree to mediate a total of 16 justice court disputes on a pro bono basis before being granted the certificate of completion. These disputes involve small claims, commercial and other types of cases, and are routinely scheduled for mediation between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If you are interested in registering for this training session or have questions, please contact Garrett Hoover at the Attorney General's Office at (602) 542-7767 or by email at [garrett.hoover@azag.gov](mailto:garrett.hoover@azag.gov).

Space is limited and advance registration is required.

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